

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please insert the following new section heading and new paragraph on page 1 at line 14.

**BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

With the invention, a first circuit layout design is obtained, and a second circuit layout design is obtained. A first topology graph is generated for the first circuit layout design, and a second topology graph is generated for the second circuit layout design. The first topology graph and the second topology graph are compared to obtain a comparison result. The comparison result is reported.

Please delete the paragraph on page 2 from lines 11-15.